As a result of these measures, flaring of gas has been reduced over the last four years. Flaring of gas as a percentage of production has come down from 42 per cent in 1984-85 to 30 per cent in 1987-88.

Declining trend of oil production

1455. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil production at the Bombay High oil-field has shown a declining trend;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there has been a sharp rise in the gas-oil ratio as well as sick wells; and

(c) what has been the rated capacity and actual achievements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) There is a marginal reduction in crude production in Bombay High Offshore fields which is normal in any reservoir with passage of time. A number of measures have been taken to maintain/increase the production by,

— Use of enhanced recovery techniques.

— Intensification of work-over operations.

— Use of artificial lift mechanism.

— Closer spacing of wells.

(b) There has been some rise in the gas-oil ratio.

(c) The target of crude production from Bombay High offshore fields during 1987-88 was 19.92 million tonnes and the actual achievement was 20.16 million tonnes. The target for current year is 20.88 million tonnes.

Setting up of petrochemical project in Andhra Pradesh

1456. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the setting up of a large petro-chemical project in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any foreign technical collaboration is envisaged;

(c) whether any foreign equity participation is expected; and

(d) what would be the capacity proposed and the project outlay?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) Some applications for the setting up of a Petro-chemical Complex at Visha-Khapatnam in Andhra Pradesh have been received. Final decision on these applicantions will be taken in due-course based on techno-economic considerations. The details of such applications are not disclosed till the final decision is taken on them.

Plans for industrialisation of backward and rural areas of the country

1457. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans for industrialisation of both the backward and the rural areas in different parts of the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Industrialisation is a continuous process. The entrepreneurs setting up industries in the industrially backward districts (including rural areas falling in these districts) are eligible for grant of Central Subsidy as per details given below:—

Category 'A'	25 per cent Subjcet to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs (Rs. 50 lakhs for setting up electronic industries in hilly districts of Category 'A').
Category 'B'	15 per cent (Subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 lakhs.